REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102

Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by Montero (US Patent No. 6,133,912).

Claim 8 has been canceled. Therefore, this rejection against claim 8 has been rendered moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103

Claims 11, 12, 21, and 22 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Montero (US Patent No. 6,133,912) in view of Myerson (US Patent No. 5,892,917).

Claims 11, 12, 21, and 22 have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection against claims 11, 12, 21, and 22 has been rendered moot.

Claims 24-27 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Montero in view of Barrett et al. (US Patent No. 5,727,129).

Claims 24-27 have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection against claims 24-27 has been rendered moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14 and 47-48 have been allowed. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of these claims.

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Claims 31-33 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but deemed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 31 and 32 have been rewritten in independent form to incorporate all of the limitations of base claim 30. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 31 and 32 are now allowable. Claim 33 now depends from allowable claim 32. Therefore, claim 33 is believed to be now allowable. No new matter has been added.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims, claims 14, 31-33, 47, and 48 in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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